

Retinoblastoma - Childhood - Latest Research [1]

This section has been reviewed and approved by the [Cancer.Net Editorial Board](#) [2], 08/2014

ON THIS PAGE: You will read about the scientific research being done now to learn more about this type of cancer and how to treat it. To see other pages, use the menu on the side of your screen.

Doctors are working to learn more about retinoblastoma, ways to prevent it, how to best treat it, and how to provide the best care to children diagnosed with this disease. The [Children's Oncology Group](#) [3] has begun clinical trials to research the treatment options listed below, and these clinical trials may be open for some children with retinoblastoma. Always talk with your child's doctor about the diagnostic and treatment options best for your child.

- More intensive treatment with chemotherapy and radiation treatment to preserve vision for children with advanced disease in both eyes
- Improved ways to deliver chemotherapy directly to the eye so that children can be spared the side effects of receiving chemotherapy to the entire body
- Less intensive treatment with chemotherapy for small tumors
- Better ways of determining which children who have had enucleation need chemotherapy, and whether chemotherapy can prevent the spread of a tumor
- Aggressive treatment to cure children who have had a recurrence of retinoblastoma or when cancer has spread outside the eye
- Better ways of reducing symptoms and side effects of current retinoblastoma treatments in order to improve patients' comfort and quality of life

Looking for More About the Latest Research?

If you would like additional information about the latest areas of research regarding retinoblastoma, explore these related items that take you outside of this guide:

- To find clinical trials specific to your diagnosis, talk with your child's doctor or [search online clinical trial databases now](#) [4].
- [Review a consumer-friendly summary](#) [5] of research published in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, ASCO's peer-reviewed journal.
- Visit ASCO's [CancerProgress.Net](#) [6] website to learn more about the historical pace of research for all childhood cancers (called pediatric cancers on this website), including retinoblastoma. Please note this link takes you to a separate ASCO website.

The next section addresses how to cope with the symptoms of the disease or the side effects of its treatment. Use the menu on the side of your screen to select Coping with Side Effects, or you can select another section, to continue reading this guide.

Links:

- [1] <http://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/retinoblastoma-childhood/latest-research>
- [2] <http://www.cancer.net/about-us>
- [3] <http://www.curesearch.org/>
- [4] <http://www.cancer.net/node/24878>
- [5] <http://www.cancer.net/node/29331>
- [6] <http://www.cancerprogress.net/timeline/pediatric-cancer>